

ALLOWANCE

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Christopher Swickhammer August, 24, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 has been replaced by --

-- Claim 1, A distributed trading system for handling a plurality of order requests, each order request comprising parameters under which a participant will buy and/or sell a futures contract, the system comprising:

a messaging bus;

a validator implemented by a computer, coupled to the messaging bus, and having a first interface for receiving order requests, wherein the validator implements processes for validating the order requests, and an interface generating a validated order message on the messaging bus related to validated orders;

a risk allocation value (RAV) component coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving validated order messages from the validator, wherein the RAV component implements processes for evaluating risk associated with an order should that order be completed and preventing completion on an order in response to the RAV component identifying an unacceptable position;

a match engine coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving validated acceptable order messages from the RAV component and storing the validated acceptable order messages in a memory, wherein the match engine implements processes for matching orders based on order-specified criteria, wherein the match engine is configured

specifically for a particular class of futures contracts and receives validated order messages only when they are related to the particular class of futures contracts, wherein the particular class of futures contracts comprise a contract cluster having a unique contract identification representative of a single tradable instrument, and wherein responsive to contract clusters being identified, requiring the match engine to consider two or more contracts simultaneously to determine matches; and

a persist component coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving messages related to orders and trades, wherein the persist component implements processes for persistently storing information related to orders and trades; and

a resynchronization process,

wherein each of the validator, RAV component, match engine and persist component is operative to generate a halt message on the message bus in the event of a malfunction or failure, the halt message causes one or more or all of the validator, RAV component, match engine and persist component of the system to halt, and the resynchronization process is operative to recover from such a system halt and reopen the distributed trading system for the buying and/or selling of futures contracts.

Claim 19 has been replaced by --

-- Claim 19, A distributed trading system for handling a plurality of order requests, each order request comprising parameters under which a participant will buy and/or sell a futures contract, the system comprising:

a messaging bus;

a validator implemented by a computer, coupled to the messaging bus, and having a first interface for receiving order requests, wherein the validator implements processes for validating the order requests, and an interface generating a validated order message on the messaging bus related to validated orders;

a risk allocation value (RAV) component coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving validated order messages from the validator, wherein the RAV component

implements processes for evaluating risk associated with an order should that order be completed;

a match engine coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving validated acceptable order messages from the RAV component, and storing the validated acceptable order messages in a memory, wherein the match engine implements processes for matching orders based on order-specified criteria, wherein the match engine is configured specifically for a particular class of futures contracts and receives validated order messages only when they are related to the particular class of futures contracts, and wherein the particular class of futures contracts comprise a contract cluster, and wherein responsive to contract clusters being identified, requiring the match engine to consider two or more contracts simultaneously to determine matches;

a persist component coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving messages related to orders and trades, wherein the persist component implements processes for persistently storing information related to orders and trades;

a settlement component coupled to the persist component and having an interface for receiving orders matched by the match engine and an interface for receiving trade data, wherein the settlement component calculates a proposed settlement price and submits the proposed settlement price for publication; and

a resynchronization process,
wherein each of the validator, RAV component, match engine, persist component and settlement component is operative to generate a halt message on the message bus in the event of a malfunction or failure, the halt message causes one or more or all of the validator, RAV component, match engine, persist component and settlement component of the system to halt, and the resynchronization process is operative to recover from such a system halt and reopen the distributed trading system for the buying and/or selling of futures contracts.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-4, 7-14, 16-23, 26-28 are allowable over the art of record.

3. The following is a statement of reasons for indication of allowable subject matter. The prior art fails to teach, or suggest, the limitations of:

" A distributed trading system for handling a plurality of order requests, each order request comprising parameters under which a participant will buy and/or sell a futures contract, the system comprising:

a messaging bus;

a validator implemented by a computer, coupled to the messaging bus, and having a first interface for receiving order requests, wherein the validator implements processes for validating the order requests, and an interface generating a validated order message on the messaging bus related to validated orders;

a risk allocation value (RAV) component coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving validated order messages from the validator, wherein the RAV component implements processes for evaluating risk associated with an order should that order be completed and preventing completion on an order in response to the RAV component identifying an unacceptable position;

a match engine coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving validated acceptable order messages from the RAV component and storing the validated acceptable order messages in a memory, wherein the match engine implements processes for matching orders based on order-specified criteria, wherein the match engine is configured specifically for a particular class of futures contracts and receives validated order messages only when they are related to the particular class of futures contracts, wherein the particular class of futures contracts comprise a contract cluster having a unique contract identification representative of a single tradable instrument, and wherein responsive to contract clusters being identified, requiring the match engine to consider two or more contracts simultaneously to determine matches; and

a persist component coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving messages related to orders and trades, wherein the persist component implements processes for persistently storing information related to orders and trades; and

a resynchronization process,

wherein each of the validator, RAV component, match engine and persist component is operative to generate a halt message on the message bus in the event of a malfunction or failure, the halt message causes one or more or all of the validator, RAV component, match engine and persist component of the system to halt, and the resynchronization process is operative to recover from such a system halt and reopen the distributed trading system for the buying and/or selling of futures contracts. “as recited in the instant claims.

Guterman et al (US Patent: 5, 297, 031) taken alone or in combination with Lupie (US Patent: 6, 012,046 and **BEA Endorses RosettaNet Open Standards for E-Market Integration** PR Newswire. New York: Apr 10, 2000. pg. 1) fails to teach or suggest “A distributed trading system for handling a plurality of order requests, each order request comprising parameters under which a participant will buy and/or sell a futures contract, the system comprising:

a messaging bus;

a validator implemented by a computer, coupled to the messaging bus, and having a first interface for receiving order requests, wherein the validator implements processes for validating the order requests, and an interface generating a validated order message on the messaging bus related to validated orders;

a risk allocation value (RAV) component coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving validated order messages from the validator, wherein the RAV component implements processes for evaluating risk associated with an order should that order be completed and preventing completion on an order in response to the RAV component identifying an unacceptable position;

a match engine coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving validated acceptable order messages from the RAV component and storing the validated acceptable order messages in a memory, wherein the match engine implements processes for matching orders based on order-specified criteria, wherein the match engine is configured specifically for a particular class of futures contracts and receives validated order messages only when they are related to the particular class of futures contracts, wherein the particular class of futures contracts comprise a contract cluster having a unique contract identification

representative of a single tradable instrument, and wherein responsive to contract clusters being identified, requiring the match engine to consider two or more contracts simultaneously to determine matches; and

a persist component coupled to the messaging bus and having an interface for receiving messages related to orders and trades, wherein the persist component implements processes for persistently storing information related to orders and trades; and

a resynchronization process,

wherein each of the validator, RAV component, match engine and persist component is operative to generate a halt message on the message bus in the event of a malfunction or failure, the halt message causes one or more or all of the validator, RAV component, match engine and persist component of the system to halt, and the resynchronization process is operative to recover from such a system halt and reopen the distributed trading system for the buying and/or selling of futures contracts .” as recited in the instant claims.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clement B. Graham whose telephone number is 571-272-6795. The examiner can normally be reached on 7am to 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Kalinowski can be reached on (571) 272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CG

August 20, 2010

/Hani M. Kazimi/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3691